HEALTH
A 7 NOV 1947
C.R. 30

BOROUGH OF DEAL

ANNUAL REPORT

UPON THE

HEALTH OF DEAL

FOR

1946

Dudley W. Kirk, M.B., Ch.B.,

Medical Officer of Health.

BOROUGH OF DEAL

REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1946.

To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of the Borough of Deal,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my 20th Annual Report which in this instance is for the year 1946 and I venture to suggest that it shows that Deal continues in its reputation as a health resort with a most satisfactory standard of general health and public health services.

The birth rate has risen well above the average for the country. This is a generally consistent feature of the town, although the death rate shows a slight percentage above the normal figure. This can be accounted for by reason of the high proportion of aged residents as this town is a popular place in which retired individuals of all classes settle.

There is no comment beyond this on the general birth and death rates.

Once again we can show a completely negative return in connection with Puerperal conditions and I must therefore commend those associated with Maternity work in this Borough for their excellent results.

Infectious Diseases have again been extremely small. Beyond a very mild outbreak of Whooping Cough there is nothing noteworthy to remark upon except that this figure is to be commended particularly in this area which is subject to much holiday traffic and the travelling to and from of strangers from other and more populated areas where infection is likely to be more prevalent.

One of the biggest obstacles the Department has had to contend with is that of inadequate staffing, The war with its havoc served to considerably disorganise routine duties and added many problems to the Department's obligations, such that the work has mounted considerably.

We have had changes in the staff during the year and this has not assisted in overcoming these difficulties, particularly as, in any case, the members of this Department have been so numerically small. I sincerely hope that in the next year a firm basis can be established for the adequate staffing of the Department so that some impression can be made on the considerable leeway of work yet to be recovered.

I would like here to commend members of my staff for the excellent service they have rendered to the Borough during 1946.

As in 1945 there has been a return of considerable numbers of old residents. To this one must add the return of young men from the war, who have now acquired wives and families. In addition also with the commencing of several new small industries the town has increased in size such that it is anticipated before long it will have reached its maximum population figures.

With this heavy return of people the housing situation has become acute. This is one of the major problems within the Department and it is gratifying to see the progress being made in various areas of the Borough in the erection of temporary and of permanent houses. In spite of this good progress this housing problem is likely to remain for some years.

Little headway has been possible in the development of our post-war plans and now many of these medical questions are bound up with the National Health Service Act. Again progress must, of necessity, be slow. One of the most important post-war problems is the accommodation for maternity cases which, during the war were catered for and indeed still are by the Kent County Council in the establishment of large Maternity Hospitals throughout the county. These Hospitals, however, are gradually being closed or reduced so that, in many instances, particularly with the difficult housing conditions, the placing of a maternity case is not easy. There tends also to be a more obvious desire in many of the young marrieds to have their child in an Institution or Hospital rather than to accept confinement at home.

The Ambulance facilities were markedly improved during the year by the extended service through the St. Johns Ambulance Brigade and this service has operated in an excellent manner such that I anticipate it will be acceptable under the new Health Service.

The School Medical Service continues in operation under the Kent County Council who acquired the First Aid Post in Victoria Park and there

formed a first-class School Clinic.

The operation of this service is in my opinion more complex than when run by the Local Authority and of course this must be so as it is a part, now, of a large highly organised system. I still feel that the personal contact which one hitherto enjoyed and which was for the benefit of the child, has in no small measure been reduced and much of the close attention to the welfare of individual cases has been obliterated by the management of appointments and talks, etc. from Maidstone rather than from the town in which the child lives. I do not, however, consider that the actual health of any individual child or section of children has suffered from this reason but it is possible in some individual cases the parent has had more trouble in contacting the service or the particular specialist required.

I should like to mention that we took considerable steps to thoroughly investigate the Ice Cream position in the town early in 1946 and had the matter well in hand before the outbreak of illness which was occasioned in another town through infected Ice Cream. This, I feel, was an excellent piece of work due to foresight particularly on the part of my Senior Sanitary Inspector and it was gratifying to feel that we had this important matter well under control long before there was any official outcry about the position.

I should like to express my thanks to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and members of the Committee for their continued co-operation and courtesy and also once again commend all members of my staff for the excellent service they have rendered.

The co-operation and assistance given to me by the Town Clerk, Borough Surveyor and Borough Accountant and their staff is fully appreciated and I would like to express my thanks to all my colleagues for their continued assistance.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D.W. KIRK, M.B., Ch.B.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Deal.
August, 1947.

BOROUGH OF DEAL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman:

Councillor W.P.D. Stebbing.

Vice-Chairman:

Councillor A. Jenkins.

Members:

His Worship the Mayor (Councillor S. Little, J.P.)

Alderman Tudor Davies
Councillor E.H. Adey
" G.H. Askham
" G. Benchley
" N.U. Cavell
" A.E. Clack
" A. Harris-Mayes
" A.A. Kidd
" Mrs. B. Mantle
" H.A. Nurse
" E.J. Robinson

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health:	Dudley W. Kirk, M.B., Ch.B.,
Senior Sanitary Inspector:	J. Phil Byng, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., (resigned 18.5.46)
Additional Sanitary Inspector:	G. Goram, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., (Demobilised July '46. Resigned 31.10.46)
	W. Green, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.,
Pupil Sanitary Inspector:	G.L. Almond, (Demobilised 14.10.46)
Shorthand Typist:	Miss P. Wilson, (Resigned 30.11.46) succeeded by Mrs. P. Burton.

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STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area.

The area of the Borough is 2,917 acres, exclusive of the foreshore. No alteration in the area has been made since 1935.

Population.

The population as estimated by the Registrar-General for the mid-year is	20,200
This shows an increase on last year's figure of	3,580
For calculating the Birth and Death rates, the estimated population is given as	20,200
The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1945 according to the Rate Books was.	5,811
The Rateable Value on 31st December, 1945 was	£150,300
And the sum represented by a Penny Rate	£570

Physical Features.

The enlarged Borough of Deal, possessing a promenade Foreshore of nearly three and half miles, is renowned as a Health Resort. Its geographical position is unique in view of its situation on the English Channel and its pleasant climate gives added advantage to the Town. The whole area is level, rising only very gradually to the surrounding wooded country. The level nature of the ground is an added benefit to invalids. The Beach is comprised of flint pebbles which remains unpolluted by reason of the tides.

Meteorology.

Details of meteorological observations are set forth in Tables I and II.

The hottest month was August, giving a mean of the minimum reading of 54° while the coldest month was December with a mean of the minimum reading of 32°. There were no maximum readings taken during the year owing to the Thermometer being out of order.

The total rainfall for the year was 25.17 inches, the heaviest amount falling in August, viz. 4.79 inches, while during October the amount registered was only .99 inches, this being the driest month of the year.

There were 150 days of the year on which .01 of an inch or more rain fell.

The total hours of sunshine recorded for the year was 1,583 the sunniest month being July with 267.1 hours, while November with a recording of 41.3 hours, had the least sunshine.

TABLE I

Record of Meteorology, 1946

Month	Average Thermometer (degrees) F.		Rainfall in ins.	No. of days on which .01 or more fell
	Maximum	Minimum		
January	THERMOMETER OUT OF ORDER	34.0	1.04	8
February		35.0	1.24	9
March		36.0	1.44	10
April		40.0	1.58	9
May		45.0	2.36	17
June		50.0	1.67	16
July		53.0	1.60	8
August		54.0	4.79	16
September		52.0	1.80	11
October		49.0	0.99	9
November		42.0	4.04	21
December		33.0	2.62	18
TOTAL	-	-	25.17	150
MEAN		43.6	-	-

N.B. Rainfall readings are those for the Victoria Park Station. Readingsfor the Waterworks Station show a total rainfall of 33.33 inches.

TABLE II

Sunshine, 1946

Month	Total Hours of Sunshine	Month	Total Hours of Sunshine
January	63.9	July	267.1
February	80.2	August	166.6
March	99.5	September	132.6
April	241.1	October	94.3
May	154.2	November	41.3
June	188.3	December	53.9
TOTAL HOURS OF SUNSHINE FOR 1946: 1583.0			

Social Conditions.

Deal with its unique position and nearly five miles of sea frontage on the Channel coast is essentially a health resort.

Apart from the local trading the town is regarded as a residential area catering for all classes of the community. A large proportion of the population derive income and benefit from holiday traffic which has markedly increased in these post-war years. Much headway continues to be made in the restoration of hotel and boarding house facilities and in the local shopping centre.

There is a considerable amount of work to be done in repairing the destruction produced by the war. The return of old residents and the influx of new residents has exceeded the towns ability to produce adequate housing facilities for all and similarly to other towns and areas this is a problem of high degree which is exercising the Authority's ingenuity to the utmost. Housing estates have been commenced and are well in hand in the areas at the back of the town and a considerable number of Prefabricated houses have been erected to cope with the situation.

The nearby Betteshanger Colliery which has worked continuously throughout the war employs a large number of men, the vast majority of whose families are resident in this town. In addition to this large industry there are several smaller industries which have commenced throughout the Borough and it is anticipated that in 1947 the town will increase fairly rapidly which we trust will be all to the benefit of its prosperity.

The climatic conditions are exceedingly good and the broad aim is to retain as far as possible the pleasant old-world amenities for which the town is renowned and to foster local industries so that Deal will go ahead in both being a popular health resort and, at the same time, a busy town with productive value.

Poor Relief.

The approximate amount of Out-Relief paid out in No. 16 District of which Deal forms a part was £14,655 for the twelve months ending 31st December, 1946.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

	1945	1946 Total	1946 Male	1946 Female	England & Wales
Live Births					
Legitimate	347	449	223	226	
Illegitimate	44	46	28	18	
Birth rate per 1,000 of the residential population	23.53	24.5			19.1
Still Births					
Legitimate	7	9	3	6	
Illegitimate	Nil	3	1	2	
Rate per 1,000 total births ...	17.90	24.24			
Rate per 1,000 of the residential population	0.42	0.59			0.53
Deaths					
From all causes	212	276	129	147	
Crude death rate per 1,000 residential population	12.76	13.66			11.5
Deaths from Puerperal causes. Registrar-General's List:					
No. 29 Puerperal Sepsis	Nil	Nil			
No. 30 Other Puerperal causes ...	Nil	Nil			
Rate per 1,000 (live & still) Births.	Nil	Nil			8.50
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:					
Legitimate...	10	22	16	6	
Illegitimate.	3	2	1	1	
All infants per 1,000 live births	33.25	48.48			43.
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	28.82	48.99			
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	68.18	43.48			
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	41	30	8	22	
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)..	2	2	2	-	
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 yrs) ...	4	1	1	-	

Set out below in Table III are the certified causes of Deaths in the Borough during 1946:-

TABLE III

Causes of Death	M.	F.
All Causes	129	147
1. Typhoid Fever &c..	-	-
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever	-	-
3. Scarlet Fever	-	-
4. Whooping Cough	22	-
5. Diphtheria	-	-
6. Respiratory Tuberculosis	7	3
7. Other Tuberculosis	6	2
8. Syphilitic Diseases	3	-
9. Influenza...	6	6
10. Measles	-	-
11. Ac.Poliomyelitis & Polioencephalitis	-	-
12. Ac. Inf. Encephalitis	-	-
13. Cancer of Buc. cav. & Oesoph (m) Uterus (f)	-	-
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	2
15. Cancer of Breast..	-	4
16. Cancer of all other sites	7	16
17. Diabetes	1	1
18. Cerebral Haemorrhage	11	17
19. Heart Disease	29	39
20. Other Circulatory Disease	2	7
21. Bronchitis..	5	3
22. Pneumonia	4	8
23. Other Respiratory Diseases	3	-
24. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum..	3	2
25. Diarrhoea &c. (under 2 yrs.)..	1	-
26. Appendicitis	2	-
27. Other Digestive diseases	3	8
28. Nephritis...	4	9
29. Puerperal & Post abortive Sepsis	-	-
30. Other Maternal causes	-	-
31. Prem. Birth.	4	2
32. Congenital causes &c....	6	4
33. Suicide	3	-
34. Road Traffic Accidents..	1	-
35. Other Violent causes	2	2
36. All other causes..	13	12

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

1946 saw several changes in the constitution of the Departmental staff.

Mr. Byng, the Senior Sanitary Inspector, who had worked in this town for over 21 years, resigned in favour of work in the Colonial Service and his place was taken by Mr. W. Green who was appointed originally as Additional Sanitary Inspector on the 14th January, 1946.

Mr. Goram, a former Additional Sanitary Inspector, returned from H.M. Forces in July and resigned four months later just after the return of Mr. G.L. Almond our Pupil Sanitary Inspector, who had served with H.M. Forces throughout the war.

The regular Shorthand Typist, Miss Wilson, resigned in November and was replaced by Mrs. P. Burton on the 2nd December.

The staff, then, for the major part of the year, apart from myself has consisted of one Sanitary Inspector plus one Shorthand Typist.

The whole question of the staff has been a thorny problem which has had considerable thought and discussion spent upon it during the year.

I must here commend the members of my present staff whose work has been always of the highest order and this work has been done only under the greatest of difficulty in that they have attempted to do the duties of several people and have endeavoured to cope with the great increase of work which has arisen since the cessation of hostilities.

The eventual return to peace-time conditions with its manifold problems has been in itself a large responsibility and this has been complicated by the necessity for recovering lost ground caused by the war. Much of the routine and minor essential work had to be abandoned such that this, more or less, proved a continuous fight against time to recover the situation.

It has been agreed that in addition to a Senior Sanitary Inspector, two Additional Sanitary Inspectors, plus a Pupil Clerk and the clerical staff, are essential for the smooth running of this Department and the future welfare of the Borough. I sincerely hope that as soon as possible in 1947 this object will be achieved and that we will have at least one outside workman with motor transport to cope with the many emergencies which arise in this area.

Apart from the extensive damage caused to property by the war, many of the houses in the older parts of the Borough are antiquated and need constant and regular supervision. The low-lying part of the town, for some of it is below sea level, and the adjoining marsh land to the north, bring with them their own peculiar problems in relation to high water and excessive rainfall flooding and a certain danger from mosquito infection.

I shall continue to press for the adequate staffing of this Department which must in all fairness be considered as vitally important to the welfare of this town.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The principal centre for laboratory work is the Kent County Laboratory at Maidstone which is under the direction of Dr. A. Elliott, M.D., D.P.H., the Kent County Medical Officer of Health.

This Laboratory undertakes all forms of investigations and is freely used by Medical Practitioners in the Town. The service is of a high standard. We co-operate with the County by furnishing samples and specimens as requested for Public Health work generally.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) Accident and Non-Infectious Cases: The augmented Ambulance Scheme run by the St. Johns Ambulance Brigade from the Drill Hall, Grove Terrace, has been in operation most successfully throughout the year. They employ not less than three vehicles (two stretcher Ambulances and one Sitting Case car), two full-time drivers, day and night service and excellent voluntary assistance. This new Service has done well and appears to me to meet the requirements of the town satisfactorily. The Corporation contribute the sum of £250 per annum to the Brigade and, as previously reported, transferred to the Brigade a Saloon

car which is used as the Sitting Case Ambulance.
No further comment has been heard from the Kent County Council who, through Colonel Campbell, investigated the local situation which, I anticipate, will be quite satisfactory in the light of the new National Health Service to come.

(b) Infectious Diseases: During the year the arrangements we had with Eastry Authority for the reception of our Infectious Disease cases in their Hospital were concluded and replaced by a satisfactory arrangement with the Borough of Dover who now accept and transport our infectious patients.
We retained our own Infectious Disease Ambulance in that we found it of immense service in transporting cases to Eastry whose Ambulance situation covering their very large area could not always give us prompt removal. With the new arrangements at Dover the use of our own Infectious Ambulance has become less and less such that I anticipate in 1947 it may be regarded as a redundant vehicle.

This Ambulance, however, has proved valuable in assisting Authorities who have, at times, had the Ambulance for use in the event of breakdown of their own vehicles.

No particular comment is to be made on the year's infection with the exception of the outbreak of Whooping Cough which occurred in the late Spring. 58 cases, with two deaths, were recorded. Apart from a few Scarlet Fever cases and an occasional Measles we have been fortunate in the absence of the more deadly diseases and I can report again that this Borough has a low percentage of infection.

NURSING IN THE HOME

These arrangements are made through the District Nursing Association and the general nursing in this Borough is of a high standard.

With the increased population it was found necessary to increase the staff and in 1946, apart from the four midwives under the Association, two general nurses were in active operation.

MIDWIVES.

The Kent County Council administer the Midwives Act and midwives employed in Deal are directed by the District Nursing Association on behalf of the Kent County Council.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE, 1946

Centre	No. of children attending	Total No. of attendances
DEAL (St. Georges Hall)	352	2,743
DEAL (Mill Hill)	257	1,623
WALMER	181	1,085
MONGEHAM	82	545

ANTE-NATAL, 1946

Centre	No. of First Attendances	Total No. of Attendances
DEAL (St. Georges Hall)	138	270
DEAL (Mill Hill)	209	756

HOSPITALS.

1. Infectious Diseases.

As previously mentioned we now send our Infectious cases to the Dover Isolation Hospital and this arrangement proves very satisfactory.

Our own Isolation Hospital was closed early in the war for security reasons and continues to be rented to the Education Authority who use it as a school. This building, as far as Hospital requirements are concerned, is out of date, and should it be desired that it be re-used as a Hospital the tendency would be to reconstruct rather than to completely rebuild. The financial aspect, and for other reasons, such as labour and difficulty of supply, etc., make this suggestion untenable.

Smallpox cases are catered for at the Poulton Hospital, Dover, with an arrangement through the Kent County Council for free admission should an outbreak of this unpleasant complaint be in any way extensive.

2. Surgical and Medical.

The Victoria Hospital, London Road, Deal, continues to admit and treat all medical and surgical cases and still operates under the Emergency Hospital Scheme under the Ministry of Health.

This Hospital continues its good work and has greatly extended its facilities during the year by an extension made on the Out-Patient Department. This has allowed for a more adequate Physio-Therapy Department and has eased the position in the already overcrowded Clinics within the Hospital building.

The X-Ray plant was completely replaced by one of the latest machines and here extensive work is done in diagnostic and emergency radiology.

During the year successful efforts were made to re-engage a resident doctor though the situation, by reason of lack of personnel in this respect, has not been easy. This Hospital is one of the few in Kent which has a good supply of radium.

HEALTH VISITORS.

The Health Visitors in this area are directed by the Kent County Council and formerly two in number they have now been increased to three.

Frequent temporary assistance, as all the Clinics are highly active and busy, is available.

I have always considered an adequate Health Visiting staff essential and have this matter listed for post-war consideration. With the service now given by the Kent County Council I feel that it will not be necessary for this Borough to attempt to undertake this responsibility. I should like to express my thanks to these nurses for their continued co-operation throughout 1946.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

This has continued quietly throughout the year and has not made quite as much headway as one would have desired. The statistics are difficult to calculate to any degree of high accuracy in that a high proportion of children were immunised during the period of war evacuation. I am satisfied, however, that the response of the young mother is a good one and that a reasonably satisfactory percentage of young babies are being immunised.

Facilities for this service are open to everybody free of charge through every practising doctor in the town. This means that with 10 doctors the community have a service of not less than 70 sessions for this work per week. The service is also available at each Mother and Child Welfare Clinic so that there can be little excuse for neglect on the part of the parent.

The propaganda work, through the means of posters, handbills and other notices, continues as does the regular Birthday Card system whereby every baby born in this town receives notice of their first birthday and an invitation to accept immunisation.

The financial responsibilities are run consistently with the instructions of the Ministry and during the year it will be noted we had three cases notified. There were no deaths.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

1. Quality and Quantity

The supply is constant and the standard of purity is very satisfactory. The water is from deep boreholes into the chalk and is chlorinated at the source. No figures are available for Great Mongeham and Sholden areas which are supplied by the East Kent District Water Company of Snodland. The following figures relate to Deal and Walmer:

Total Storage Capacity	-	950,000 gallons	
Pumping "	-	2,200 "	per minute.
Quantity delivered during 1947	-	308,014,900 "	
Daily consumption	-	843,876 "	

2. Bacteriological and Chemical Examinations

	No. taken	No. unsatisfactory
Mains Supplies		
Chemical	10	-
Bacteriological	41	2
Well Water		
Bacteriological	1	1

Typical reports are shown below in Tables IV and V:

TABLE IV

THE CLINICAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

DEAL BOROUGH

Laboratory Report No. 9949 — 7th December, 1946.

Chemical and Bacteriological Water Report

The samples of Water marked "Public Supply" collected on 2.12.46 at 7 a.m. and received here on 3.12.46 at 9.30 a.m. have been examined with the following results:-

1. Chemical

	Parts per 100,000	Grains per gallon
Total Solids (Dried at 120.c)	36.0	25.2
Combined Chlorine (as Cl)	3.4	2.4
equivalent to Sodium Chloride (Na Cl)	5.6	3.9
Nitric Nitrogen (Nitrates)	0.82	0.57
Nitrous Nitrogen (Nitrites)	Nil	Nil
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	Nil	Nil
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.0010	0.0007
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours @ 27.c	0.003	0.002
Lead or Copper	Nil	Nil
Temporary hardness (equivalent to Ca Cos)	22.5	15.8
Permanent hardness (equivalent to Ca Cos)	4.0	2.8
Total hardness (equivalent to Ca Cos)	26.5	18.6

2. Bacteriological

The average number of organisms producing visible colonies on agar plates,

at 20. - 22.c for 3 days	5 per ml.
at 37.c for 2 days	3 per ml.
Faecal B.Coli..	not found in 100 ml.
Probable number of B. Coli present	none per 100 ml.
Streptococci...	not found in 30 ml.
Cl. Welchii (spores).	not found in 100 ml.

The combined results show this water to be of excellent quality and quite safe for drinking purposes.

(signed) R.S. RALPH
M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Laboratory Director.

TABLE V

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

Public Health Department

MAIDSTONE

Report of Samples of Water.

Laboratory Number L.62048

Sample received 2.12.46.
Result forwarded 6.12.46.

Description of Sample	No. of organisms per C.C. capable of growth on agar		B.Coli (presumptive)
	37.° C.	22.° C	
Water taken from tap on stand pipe off fire hydrant direct on main Deal Corporation. Source - Public Supply: Treated.	0	0	absent in 100 C.C.s

Remarks:

B.Coli. (presumptive) absent in 100 C.C.s - a good water.

3. Plumbo Solvent Action

There has been no evidence of plumbo solvency in the mains supplies.

4. Action in respect of any form of contamination

Two unsatisfactory bacteriological reports on mains water were traced to faulty sampling technique.

In the case of a contaminated well water, the Council mains were extended and the house connected to the mains. The use of the well water for human consumption was prohibited.

5. Means of Supply

Approx. No. of Houses supplied	with mains water	6,382
	with well water	25

A small number of houses with mains water have a joint stand pipe supply.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The drainage and sewerage of the area remains in principle the same as in previous years.

Walmer is drained by gravitation through a comparatively new set of sewers to a storage tank under the foreshore, the contents of which are discharged each day into the sea. Surface water is taken separately into the old sewer system and discharges through the original out-falls on the foreshore.

Deal is also drained by gravitation to the Pumping Station at the North end of the town where the sewage is raised to a covered storage tank and is discharged into the sea, well away from the foreshore.

A scheme for draining the outlying Mongeham area, necessarily postponed during the war years, is again under consideration. This scheme was the subject of a Ministry of Health enquiry in December 1938 as a result of which loan sanction was obtained.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No action has been necessary in relation to pollution of water courses during the past year.

Anti-Mosquito work in respect of dykes and ponds is undertaken each year and a suitable larvicide is sprayed on all known breeding grounds.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The approximate number of premises equipped with each type of sanitary convenience is as follows:-

Waterclosets into drainage system	-	6,156
" " Cesspools	-	116
Earth Closets or privy midden	-	2
Pail closets including Chemical closets	-	133

No conversions took place during the twelve months under review.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The Public Cleansing Service operates under the supervision of the Borough Surveyor.

(a) Domestic Storage: Sanitary Ashbins are in use throughout the Borough. Considerable difficulty was experienced in securing replacements and renewals during the year.

(b) Collection: Collection is undertaken by direct labour. Modern covered motor vehicles are used for this purpose. A weekly collection was maintained throughout the year in all parts of the area. A charge is made for collection of trade refuse.

(c) Disposal: The refuse is conveyed to the Council's refuse tip where salvageable articles are removed, the residue being disposed of by controlled tipping. No complaints have been received in respect of the tip which is managed very satisfactorily.

(d) Gulley Cleansing: A combined vacuum gulley emptier and flushing van is owned and operated by the Corporation.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Sanitary Inspection of the area during 1946 comprised mainly complaint and request inspections and other duties essential in a seaside resort such as supervision of cafes and restaurants.

I give below a table showing the number of inspections of Factories under the 1937 Act with the number of defects found, action taken and the result thereof:-

TABLE VI

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

	Inspections	Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1 - 6 are enforced by Local Authority	20	8	Nil
2. Factories not included above in which Section 7 applies	12	5	Nil
3. Other Premises under the Act excluding outworkers premises	1	1	Nil

DEFECTS

	Found	Remedied
Want of cleanliness (Sec.1)	7	7
Overcrowding (Sec.2)	-	-
Unreasonable temperatures (Sec.3)	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (Sec.4)..	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (Sec.6) ...	1	1
Sanitary conveniences (Sec.7)		
(a) insufficient	1	1
(b) unsuitable or defective	2	2
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-
Other offences	4	4
TOTAL	15	15

Below in tabular form is given the report furnished by the Sanitary Inspector under Article 27 of the Sanitary Officer (Outside London) Regulations, 1935:-

TABLE VII

TABLE OF WORKS OF SANITARY INSPECTORS

Animal Keeping	21
Accumulation of Manure and other refuse removed	28
Ceilings repaired	49
Cesspools	8
Chimneys repaired	25
Cooking stoves renewed or repaired	15
Coppers repaired	6
Disinfestation of Premises Inspections	48
Disinfestation of Premises	15
Disinfection of Premises	27
Doors repaired	17
Drains cleansed or cleared	67
Drains repaired	9
Drains reconstructed	5
Fireplaces repaired	7
Floors renewed	46
Gutters and downspouts repaired	46
Inspection Chambers repaired	9
Food Preparing Premises, including Meat Shops	245
Mosquito Inspections	3
Overcrowding: Enquiries into	91
Rats and Mice Inspections	3,505
Refuse Tips	2
Roofs repaired	80
Sanitary Ashbins provided	28
Scabies Inspections	1
Shops Act Inspections	16
Sinks renewed or repaired and traps provided	44
Slaughterhouse Inspections	1
Stables and Piggeries Inspected and Defects remedied	35
Stairs repaired	1
Tents, Vans and Sheds, etc. Inspections	3
Unclean Premises dealt with	8
Water Service provided or repaired	8
Waterclosets, structural defects remedied	64
Waterclosets, flush provided	8
Waterclosets, additional provided	8
Walls repaired or treated	108
Windows renewed or repaired	57
Yards, paved or repaired	2
Informal Repair Notices served	292
Statutory Notices served	28

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

16 inspections and revisits were made under the above Act.

One exemption certificate was issued in respect of Sanitary Conveniences.

There were, within the district pre-war, approximately 450 shops premises and future plans include a shops survey under the Sanitary provisions of the 1934 Act.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

1. Camping Sites

One Licence is in force in the district in connection with the Hawkshill Seaside Camp for London Boys.

On the recommendation of the Public Health Commitee, after negotiation

with the Planning Officer, Dover, the Council have resolved to restrict further Licensed Camping Sites to an area bounded roughly by Southwall Road, Western Road and Golf Road.

2. Tents, Vans and Sheds

One Licence is in force in respect of a trailer caravan situated in Crayfords Meadow, Mongeham.

Four caravans habited during the summer months in connection with the Fairground, Marina, have removed from the district.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

No smoke observations were necessary during the year.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

There are no public Swimming Baths or Pools within the area.

An indoor Swimming Bath is however owned by the Admiralty and certain members of the public are allowed use of same. The bath is equipped with a chlorinating plant.

RODENT CONTROL

A summary of work under this heading is given below.

	Rats	Mice	Total
Premises under treatment at end of 1945	18	4	22
New premises treated during 1946	160	71	231
Premises cleared of infestation during 1946	171	74	245
Premises still under treatment at end of 1946	7	1	8
Total Visits and Inspections		3,505	
Estimated mimimum number of rats exterminated during year (Ministry of Food Formula)		910	

No major infestations were discovered during the year.

One full time Rodent Operator is employed on this work.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

15 infestations were successfully treated during the year as follows:-

1. Houses found infested
   (a) Council Houses - 3
   (b) Private Houses - 12
2. Methods employed for disinfestation
   (a) Gas - Nil
   (b) Liquid Insecticide - 15

During the year advantage was taken of the introduction of D.D.T. to liquid insecticide. The residual action was found to give a satisfactory treatment with the first application, and obviates the necessity for a 100% initial kill. It is, although more expensive to purchase, economical in use.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 and 1928.

There are at present no premises in the area where Rag Flock is manufacturedor used in manufacture.

SCHOOLS.

The School Medical Service is now under the Kent County Council and I represent them as an Assistant School Medical Officer under that Authority. The work done under this section is very considerable and I have to report that the general health and standard of physique of the Deal school child can be considered as most satisfactory.

The Minor Ailments Clinic was transferred to the First Aid Post, Victoria Park, and this building offers ample and excellent facilities for the work. Within this building a section was allocated to the School Dental Clinic which now takes place there.

The more modern of the Schools are good examples of present-day educational health standards but the older schools, in some instances, require much renovation. Here again the war must be blamed for delay, but I hope to see, in the very near future, considerable improvements in all of these old schools, particularly with regard to lavatory accommodation, lighting, ventilation, furnishing and playgrounds. This is the intense and extensive problem now the property of the higher authority.

HOUSING

Considerable difficulty has been experienced during the past year in securing the execution of even the simplest though urgent repairs. Priority on materials and labour is given to provision of extra housing accommodation. Repairs to existing inhabited properties receive a secondary priority which is not strong enough to obviate the long and drawn-out delay which has prevailed during 1946. This position results in the overlooking of many defects which in normal times would have been dealt with as routine - a policy which, though unavoidable today, is dangerous in that it will, indeed it is, resulting in a lowering of the general standards of housing accommodation within the district and necessarily increasing the effort which will be required to raise these standards to a normal level when the present crisis has been surmounted.

I append a Statistical table giving details of inspections during the year. I would point out that all visits have been "on request". It was not found possible to carry out any house-to-house inspections during the year.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.

(1)	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	291
	(b) Number of inspections made for that purpose.	856
(2)	(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-section (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925)..	Nil
	(b) Number of inspections made for that purpose.	Nil
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation...	3
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	280

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers...	252

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

A. Proceedings under Section 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	1
(b) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(i) By Owners	1
(ii) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	27
(b) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(i) By Owners	27
(ii) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil

C. Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made ... ... Nil

(b) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders.. ... ... Nil

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(a) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ... Nil

(b) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit.. ... ... Nil

E. Proceedings under Part IV (Overcrowding) of the Housing Act, 1936.

(a) (i) Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at end of year ... ...

(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ... ...

(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ... ...

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... ...

(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ...

(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases ... ...

(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... ...

No reliable figures are available

At the end of 1946 the Town Clerk's Department had on record 630 applications for housing accommodation but I am of theopinion that the requirements of the district in relation to extra accommodation cannot be accurately assessed unless or until a house-to-house overcrowding survey has been carried out.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK SUPPLY

There are within the district four cowsheds in connection with three milk producers. Two of these produce Tuberculin Tested Milk, one Accredited and the fourth Non-Designated milk. Retail sale is concentrated in the hands of four retailers.

Two plants are licensed for pasteurisation by the Holder process while a third plant is licensed by the Ministry of Food for Heat Treatment of Milk. This third plant is a batch pasteuriser.

All milk retailed within the Borough is either a designated milk or is heat treated in accordance with the Ministry of Food requirements.

The following samples were taken during 1946:

	No. of samples taken	No. of unsatisfactory samples
Accredited	10	1
Tuberculin Tested	18	Nil

Pasteurised Milk

	No. of samples taken	No. of unsatisfactory samples
Methylene Blue Test	7	3
Phosphatase Test	7	2

The above unsatisfactory samples were accounted for as follows:-

1. Accredited Milk - remedied by routine precautions.
2. Unsatisfactory Phosphatase Tests:
   (a) Temperature control apparatus out of order - repaired.
   (b) Timing gear not functioning - repaired.
3. Unsatisfactory Methylene Blue Tests:
   All referred to one plant. Due to inefficient cleansing and sterilization of bottles. New bottle washer installed and further samples satisfied tests.

ICE CREAM

The number of registered Ice Cream premises under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Section 14, during the year was as follows:-

	Manufacture and Sale	Sale Only
On Register 1st January 1946	11	16
Registrations cancelled during 1946	4	2
Registered during 1946	2	2
On Register 31st December 1946	9	16

Details are appended of samples taken during the year:-

TABLE VIII

No. of Sample	No. Organisms per ml.	B. Coli in 1/100th ml.	Heat Treated	Remarks
1.	4,200	Present	No	Manufacturer warned.
2.	600	Present	Yes	-do-
3.	400	Absent	Yes	Satisfactory.
4.	3,600	Present	No	Manufacturer warned. (see No.1)
5.	1,400	Absent	Yes	Satisfactory.
6.	3,400	Present	No	Manufacturer warned.
7.	3,200	Absent	No	Satisfactory.
8.	Nil	Absent	Yes	-do-
9.	600	Present	No	Manufacturer warned.
10.	400	Absent	No	Satisfactory. (see No.9)
11.	200	Absent	Yes	Satisfactory. (See Nos.1 & 4)
12.	300	Absent	Yes	Satisfactory (see No. 6)
13.	920,000	Present	Yes	Same manufacturer (see No.3 above) Manufacturer warned.
14.	600,000	Present	Yes	
15.	56,000	Absent	Yes	
16.	560,000	Absent	Yes	
17.	Less than 100	Absent	Yes	Satisfactory. (see Nos. 1 and 13 to 16)
18.	-do-	Absent	Yes	Satisfactory.
19.	-do-	Absent	No	Satisfactory. (see Nos. 9 and 10)
20.	-do-	Absent	Yes	Satisfactory. (see Nos.2 & 5)

N.B. Counts of 100,000 or B.Coli in 1/100th. ml. were considered unsatisfactory.

High bacterial counts and presence of B.Coli were successfully countered by paying special attention to adequate sterilization of utensils and in two cases by the introduction of a heat-treated mix in place of a cold mix. In no cases were pathogenic organisms identified.

FOOD PREPARING PREMISES, CAFES, etc.

Shortage of labour, materials and public health staff restricted activities mainly to the securing of clean conditions.

A total of 570 inspections were made and 58 formal or informal notices served.

Much useful work can be carried out in securing improvement and repair of such premises when inspectorial staff become available and the building situation has eased.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

There are 10 private Slaughter-houses within the Borough all of which are inoperative. Slaughtering was centralised for this district at Canterbury during the first half of the year and was then transferred to Hythe. This transfer took place after a consignment of approximately one ton of home-killed beef and mutton arrived at Deal in a state of putrefaction.

The total amount of meat and other foods found unfit for human consumption was 4 tons, 6 cwts., 1 qr. 19 lbs.

ADULTERATION

The following samples were taken within the district and submitted for examination by the Sampling Officer of the Kent County Council during 1946.

Articles	No. of Samples
Algerian Wine	1
Arrowroot..	1
Beer.	4
Bi-carbonate of Soda...	2
Bronchial Cough Lozenges	1
Bronchial Lung Tonic...	1
Bronchial Mixture	1
Bun Flour..	1
Butter	3
Cake Flour.	1
Cheese	1
Cherry Bark Pastilles..	1
Coffee	1
Coffee Essence...	1
Delicaf	1
Figs	1
Fish Cakes	1
Gelatine Powder..	1
Gin..	2
Gravin	1
Gravy Browning...	1
Honey	1
Jam..	2
Lard.	1
Lime Flavoured Compound	1
Malt Cup...	1
Margarine..	2
Marmalade Pudding	1
Milk.	41
Pea Flour..	1
Port Type Wine...	1
Rissoles...	1
Shredded Suet	1
Sugar	1
Sultanas...	1
Syrup of Figs	1

Throat Tablets	1
Vinegar	1
Whisky.	2
	89

Several samples of milk were found to be slightly deficient in fat. Enquiries showed that the deficiencies were due either to improper mixing or to irregular milking periods. Appropriate advice was given to the milk producers and the analyses of further samples have shown the quality of the milk to be satisfactory.

The analyses of two samples of Old Ale showed that considerable water had been added to the Old Ale after it had left the Brewery. Unfortunately, the bottles containing the samples burst before investigations were complete and, therefore, no action could be taken by the Department. The matter was passed on to the Customs and Excise Officers who decided, however, that no action should be taken. A number of samples have since been taken from the same seller and in each case have been genuine.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

During the year the Borough has been fortunate in the low incidence of Infectious Diseases.

Apart from a mild outbreak of Whooping Cough already recorded, there is nothing worthy of comment.

The arrangements for Isolation of the major infections are satisfactory while the Immunisation against Diphtheria proceeds with the usual routine methods.

The table below shows the number of cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year:

TABLE IX

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital
Scarlet Fever	18	13
Diphtheria	3	1
Enteric Fever, including Para-typhoid Fever	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	-	-
Whooping Cough	58	-
Measles	10	-
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	28	-
Tuberculosis (Non-Pulmonary)	10	-
Erysipelas	3	-
Malaria	1	-
TOTALS	131	14

SCABIES

The Scabies Treatment Clinic continues as before at the First Aid Post, Victoria Park, where three part-time attendants, one male and two female, hold daily sessions.

I am certain that this Clinic is the means of keeping this unpleasant infection very much in reduced numbers. The prevalence of this disease became more evident during the war and still persists by reason of poor and over-crowded conditions in poorer class homes.

We formerly catered for not only our own Borough but for cases within the adjoining parts of Eastry and Dover Rural areas. This arrangements appears to have lapsed as during this last year no cases have been sent to us from these areas.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

See Pages 12 and 13.

DISINFECTION

Following notification of cases of Infectious Disease the premises concerned are visited and an effort made to trace the source of infection. The dwelling-house is inspected at the same time and unsatisfactory housing conditions or nuisances are remedied by informal or formal notice.

When a case is removed to Hospital the infected premises are disinfected by formalin spray and the removeable bedding and clothing taken to the Steam Disinfector for treatment. Similar action is taken on recovery of patients nursed at home.

The Steam Disinfector was used during the year in the following cases:-

Infectious Diseases	-	24
Other Diseases	-	17

In addition the Department arranged and carried out the following disinfection of premises:

Infectious Diseases	-	23 houses
Other Diseases	-	4 houses

EXAMINATION OF PATHOLOGICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL SPECIMENS

The service provided by the Kent County Council at the County Laboratory, Sessions House, Maidstone, has, as previously reported, been of valuable assistance to myself and other medical men in this district in the examination of swabs.

CANCER

The number of deaths from malignant disease in this area during 1946 was:-

	Males	Females	Total
Deal Borough	8	22	30

This gives a death rate for this disease of:

For Deal Borough	1.48

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS

No cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were notified during the year, and it was not necessary to take action under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

TUBERCULOSIS

It was not necessary to take action under the Public Health Act (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulation, 1925, relating to employees in the milk supply trade, nor under Section 171 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the compulsory removal of Tuberculosis patients to Hospital.

The following table shows the new cases and mortality relating to Tuberculosis during the year 1946:-

TABLE X

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
5	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-
10	2	1	1	-	-	-	1	-
15	1	4	-	1	-	-	-	-
20	2	4	-	-	1	-	-	-
25	5	5	1	1	3	1	1	-
35	3	1	-	1	1	2	-	1
45	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
55	2	-	1	-	-	-	2	-
65 & upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
TOTALS	15	15	4	4	7	3	6	2

The number of deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis which had been notified was 12. The number which had not been notified was 6.

BOROUGH OF DEAL

General Summary

Population (estimated 1946 for area as now constituted) ...	20,200
Number of inhabited houses (according to rate books at end of 1946)	5,811
Average number of persons per house	3.8
Area.	2,917 acres
Density	6.9 persons per acre.

	Deal		England and Wales
Annual Birth Rate per 1,000 population ...	24.5		19.1
Annual Death Rate per 1,000 population			
Crude.	13.66		11.5
Infantile Death Rates per 1,000 Births	48.48		43.0
Live Births: Males	251		
Females..	244		
		Total 495	
Deaths: Males	129		
Females..	147		
		Total 276	

Excess of Births over Deaths..	219
Total Hours of Sunshine.	1,583.0
Rainfall in inches	25.17
Average Minimum Temperature for year ...	43.6°
Rateable Value, end of 1946...	£150,300
Product of Penny Rate, end of 1946.. ...	£570

outstanding from the previous year and as before Ministry of Food control measures in use proved very satisfactory. Eleven infested areas were receiving treatment at the year end. One infestation of interest was that of "Tarran" type prefabricated houses. These had been constructed on virgin farm land and following flooding of ditches by very heavy rain ten houses were reported as infested. Mode of infestation was obtained by following the course of the service mains, through the foundation concrete, into the kitchen fitment. This was sealed with concrete and successful disinfestation of the land adjoining was carried out. Minor infestations were generally in respect of odd stray rodents in house and shop properties.

Tabulated details of the work carried out are given below.

A scheme of proposed work under the Rats Private Dwellings Scheme was approved by the Ministry of Food.

Degree of infestation.	In hand from previous year.	Total treated.	Abated.	In hand at year end.	Dead recovered. Rats:	Mice:
Reservoir	1	2	1	1	95	-
Major	3	14	10	4	499	-
Minor	1	28	22	6	169	94
TOTALS	5	44	33	11	763	94

Types of infested areas dealt with are indicated below:-

Industrial Premises	2	Domestic property, blocks	25
Fish Trade Premises	6	Public Houses	1
Controlled Tip	1	Food Premises	6
Salvage Depot	1	School	1
Allotments	1	Miscellaneous	2

Factories Act, 1937, etc.

During the year a start was made with the revision of the register of these premises which is very much out of date and it is hoped to complete it next year. Through pressure of slum clearance the work in the past has been sadly neglected.

A total of 103 inspections were made, 38 in respect of Factories with mechanical power, 61 in respect of factories without and 4 in respect of workplaces. One notice of defects was received from the Factory Inspector and the necessary action taken thereon. Defects found and remedial action was carried out in eleven instances.